

Express Mail® Label No. EL 9032001
Date of Deposit: August 27, 2001

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Address" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

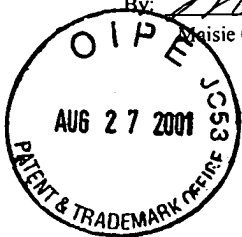
TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

Attorney Docket No.: 015389-002600US
Client Reference No.: 018/195P1

PATENT

By: *Maisie C. Livengood*

Maisie C. Livengood



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Thomas R. Cech et al.

Application No.: 08/912,951

Filed: August 14, 1997

For: HUMAN TELOMERASE
CATALYTIC SUBUNIT:
DIAGNOSTIC AND
THERAPEUTIC METHODS

Examiner: Janet Andres, Ph.D.

Art Unit: 1646

AMENDMENT

RECEIVED
SEP 04 2001
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 27, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows. A 3 month Petition for Extension of Time is enclosed herewith, extending the period of response from May 27, 2001 until August 27, 2001. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 46-81 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following new claims:

83. (New) A mammalian cell that contains a recombinant polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence that encodes a human telomerase reverse transcriptase (hTERT) protein, variant, or fragment having telomerase catalytic activity when complexed with a telomerase

D,
Sub
E1
7

D